

Study Session  
City Council Chambers  
October 25, 2005

Councilman Herb Schmidt opened the Study Session noting two years ago Mayor Jones appointed a committee to review the facilities and capital needs of all of the departments within the City. He stated planning for facilities needs to be flexible and realistic in light of changing economic conditions and growth. He praised the work of Public Works Director Joe Henne and Councilmen Allen Schmid and Keith Larson in studying this issues and praised the various City departments as being very helpful in projecting their needs. He noted back-up information is available at the Public Works Department.

Public Works Director Joe Henne reviewed the Capital Facilities Priority Project Identification handout, noting we will not see any capital facility projects out of water or sewer funds. He enumerated the capital facilities projected for the next five years.

A. Public Works' Maintenance Facility 2006

Mr. Henne estimated the cost will total \$2.5million. He stated water and sewer funds already have \$700,000.

B. Public Works Local Street Improvements

C. Parks - Wixson

1. Demolition of the Pool at Wixson Park
2. Construction of ADA Rest Rooms
3. Construct Shelter at the Concrete Wading Pool

Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler stated the draft Comprehensive Parks Plan considers putting that spray pool back into service if the other pool goes away.

Councilman Schmidt stated this study is very conscious of the source of funds for these projects and the priority of expenditures.

Councilman Schmid suggested if something else comes up, it should be added to this "wish list."

Mr. Henne moved on to the next item

D. Parks - Palm Park

1. Remove/Replace Trees
2. Replace Retaining Wall/Refurbish Basketball Court
3. Build Picnic Shelter

In other words, make Palm Park more like Playland Park.

Mayor Jones suggested removing ornamental plums at Palm Park, and that when the City crew takes trees out along Hillcrest Drive, they should grade the slope down.

The Public Works Director moved on to the next item

E. Parks - Playland Park

1. Provide Potable Water Drinking Fountain At Shelter
2. Basketball Court

Several Council Members remarked about how much use Playland Park gets.

F. Parks - Well #6 Park

1. Extend Fence – Improve Safety
2. ½ Basketball Court

G. Parks - Legion Park

1. Cover Over Bench Area

An additional bench could be added.

\*Heritage Hills Cliff Park has been offered for a park.

\*North Park – there have been three proposals, but there is no cost estimate yet.

Councilman Harris asked about getting a more permanent bench in the park by John Campbell School. A bench could be borrowed from North Wenas.

The Public Works Director continued with Fire Department projections.

- A. Fire Department Purchase Land South of Station #1
- B. Fire Department Archive Storage

Storage would be possible in new Public Works Building. Chief Davis reported the Fire District has had donation of land.

- A. Police Department Building Addition to the East

To be used for evidence storage, showers, lockers.

- A. City Hall/Law & Justice New Building - Later (1999 Estimate)

- A. Civic Center Upgrade Distribution Electrical - Rewire Kitchen

Mr. Henne noted the wiring is in progress but the restrooms need to stay in this plan. He explained that the wiring needs to be adjusted so as not to keep flipping breakers. He stated he doesn't think we really need to redo the kitchen wiring.

- B. Civic Center North Room Remodel Eating Area/Kitchen

- C. Civic Center Remodel - North Restrooms

- D. Civic Center Property Acquisition

- 1. West Property on Park/Selah Avenue

Several Council Members expressed a concern about parking. Mayor Jones stated we may need back some of the money Yakima got from the 1/10 of 1 percent to develop additional parking. There ensued discussion about the capacity of the building.

- E. Civic Center Redo Front of Building Face Lift/Windows (Up)

Mayor Jones stated there is a plan from 30 years ago to do that facelift.

- F. Civic Center Air Conditioning Kitchen

Joe Henne stated he doesn't have a cost on air conditioning the kitchen. Councilman Schmid stated one of the best things the City has done is putting air conditioning in the Senior room at the Civic Center.

Joe Henne noted they discussed property surplus near Brader Reservoir, Old Fire Station, Crusher Canyon, Lookout Point, Shop, Marudo

Allen Schmid stated the need to fold in the Parks Comp Plan with this facility plan.

Councilman Jerry Kobes stated he would like to see more walking paths and bicycle paths, perhaps look at a long-term plan, and perhaps get developers to buy in.

Councilman Herb Schmidt invited Council Members to attend Kiwanis in November when Ray Paoella will make a power point presentation for Cascadians.

Mayor Jones said a city can't have too many parks, and he'd like to see something up on Lookout Point.

Councilman Schmid reminded the Council they tried to leave a natural swale in neighborhood, and it has since been covered. He said it is important to secure a set-aside on the property. Joe Henne stated his understanding that the County has adopted a rule that when you subdivide property, you need to set aside pathways. He suggested that the City look at a similar requirement.

Community Planner Dennis Davison need Parks & Rec Comp Plan for pathways before start telling developers to allow room for them.

Councilman Schmidt reminded the Council of remarks made by Lt. Col Nohmer regarding the potential for growth of the community.

Councilman Schmid stated it's important to remember that the City puts a substantial amount out of our general account for parks and recreation, about 13% of the annual budget while other cities are putting only 3-4%.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet suggested a Power Point presentation would be beneficial.

Councilman Schmid suggested getting ideas to Joe Henne.